

REMARKS

Claims 2-13, 15, and 39-49 are now pending. Claims 1-38 were previously pending. Applicant has amended claims 2-4, 8-9, 12-13, and 15, added claims 39-49, and canceled claims 1, 14, and 16-38.

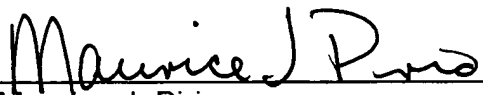
Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has so amended claims 2 and 15. In addition, claims 3-13 now depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 2 and are thus also allowable. In addition, applicant has added claims 39-49 as system claims corresponding to the allowable method claims 2-12 and are thus also allowable.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully requests consideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8548.

Respectfully submitted,

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